

Attorney Docket No. 7392/712

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFF **R**E

In re Application of:

APR 1 5 2002

SMIT et al.

Art Unit:

1648

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application No.:

08/807,506

Examiner:

R. Budens

Filed: February 26, 1997

For:

GRADUAL MODIFICATION, SUPER-AGONISTS AND ANTAGONISTS OF

SIGNAL PROTEINS AND PEPTIDES

April 12, 2002

PETITION TO SUSPEND ACTION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants petition to suspend prosecution under 37 C.F.R. 103 for a period of six months, but is no event less than three months. Applicants respectfully submit that no Office Action is outstanding, no reply is currently due. Applicants original Dutch patent agent has changed firms, and the new Dutch patent agent needs additional time in which to consult with Applicants. Applicants are otherwise not in a position to correspond directly with the undersigned. It is submitted that good and sufficient reasons for this petition have been provided. The Petition fee may be charged to our Deposit Account 06-1135 regarding our Order Nol 7392/71226.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Kendrew H. Colton Registration No. 30,368

Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery 1801 K Street, N.W. Suite 401L Washington, D.C. 20006-1201 Telephone No. (202) 419-7000 Facsimile No. (202) 419-7007